

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

C. Amendments to the Claims.

1. (Previously Presented) A franchise system for organizing and establishing a headquarter for business transactions over a network, comprising:

5 at least one headquarter network server;

 a plurality of franchise store servers, each corresponding to a different franchise store and connected with the at least one headquarter network server by a network; and

 a plurality of member servers, each corresponding to a different member terminal and connected with the at least one headquarter network server by the network; wherein

 the at least one headquarter network server includes,

 a merchandise information memory data that includes information for goods sold by the franchise stores,

15 a home page creation system that accesses the merchandise information memory data for merchandise information to create a home page of each franchise store, and that accesses a home page data memory system to collect additional home page data for the home page of each franchise store, the home page creation system also accessing a franchise store identification (ID) system,

20 a home page sending service that sends home page data for the home page of each franchise store to at least one predetermined member server, including information from the merchandise information memory data,

 an order receiving system that processes orders from the plurality of member terminals through the home pages of each franchise store,

25 a received data transfer system that transfers order data received by the order receiving system from the at least one headquarter network server to one of the franchise servers according to the franchise store ID system, the order data including a buyer name and goods ordered, and

 the franchise store ID system matches a franchise store to a person ordering via a member terminal when the person accesses the franchise system, the franchise store ID system matching franchise stores to the person accessing the franchise

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system based on uniform resource locator values set up in advance according to predetermined rules.

2. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 1, wherein:

5 the merchandise information memory data further includes information for goods not available at one of the franchise stores, but available at the headquarter.

3. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 1, wherein:

 the network includes the Internet.

10 4. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 1, wherein:

 the home page sending service sends predetermined guest home page data when a member server accessing the Franchise System does not match any franchise store.

15 5. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 1, wherein:

 the uniform resource locator values include a first portion unique to each franchise store and a second portion common to all franchise stores and the headquarters.

20 6. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 1, wherein:

 the at least one headquarter network server further includes a member entry data base that identifies previously accessing members and matches said members to a predetermined franchise store according to said member entry data.

25 7. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 6, wherein:

 the member entry data base includes member entries comprising a member identification (ID) value, a password, a franchise store code, and a terminal identification (ID) code.

30 8. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 7, wherein:

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at least a portion of the member ID value includes at least a portion of the store code.

9. (Previously Presented) The franchise system of claim 7, wherein:

at least a portion of the password includes at least a portion of the store code.

10. (New) An electronic franchise shopping system for a plurality of franchise stores, comprising:

a plurality of franchise store servers, each corresponding to a different franchise store and connected with at least one headquarter network server by a network; and

the at least one headquarter network server, comprising

a goods master data base that stores goods information for goods sold by the plurality of franchise stores, such goods including goods available at a particular franchise store and not available at the particular franchise store but available at a headquarter,

a member entry data base that stores, for each user that has previously accessed the system, a member identification value and corresponding franchise store code,

a franchise store data base that stores, for each franchise store, a franchise store identification value and corresponding franchise store code,

a home page data base that stores, for each franchise store, unique web page data for a web page corresponding to each franchise store,

a home page creation system that provides a home page for an accessing user according to unique web page data for the franchise store and goods information from the goods master data base, the home page being generated according to a predetermined data sent by the user from a remote user terminal,

a franchise store identification (ID) system that matches each franchise store to a person ordering when the person accesses the system from a remote user terminal, the franchise store ID system,

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determining if data sent by the user includes a predetermined terminal identification code unique to the remote user terminal,

matching the user to a matching franchise store ID if such a terminal identification code is present, else requesting the user to enter at least a member identification value, and

an order system that receives orders through each home page for the franchise stores and transfers said order data from the at least one headquarter network server to the franchise server corresponding to the home page, the order data including at least a buyer identification and goods identification.

11. (New) The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 10, wherein:

the franchise store ID system also requests the user to enter a password when the terminal identification code is not present, and

the home page creation system also sends home page data corresponding to one of franchise stores the user if the member identification value and password correspond to the one franchise store, else sends guest home page data.

12. (New) The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 10, wherein:

the home page creation system generates a home page based on universal resource locator (url) data sent by the user.

13. (New) The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 12, wherein:

the url data sent includes a first portion corresponding to the franchise, and a second portion unique to each franchise store.

14. (New) The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 10, wherein:

the at least one headquarter network server further includes a clearance system that executes copyright clearance procedures on behalf of a franchise store for good ordered through the web page of the franchise store.

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15. (New) An electronic franchise shopping system for a plurality of franchise stores, comprising:

at least one headquarter server

a goods master data base that stores merchandise data for merchandise
5 sold by all franchise stores,

a member entry data base that commonly stores data for members
belonging to each franchise store, said member data including at least a
member identification value, member password, and franchise store code
corresponding to the franchise store to which the member belongs,

10 a franchise store data base that stores the franchise store code for each
franchise store,

a home page data base that stores home page data for each franchise
store,

a franchise store identification (ID) system that checks if an accessing
15 user is accessing the system for the first time, and requests a member
identification number and member password if the access is a first time
access, the franchise store ID system also comparing an entered member
identification value and member password to entries in the member entry data
base, and if the member identification value and password match an entry in
20 the member entry data base matching the accessing user to the corresponding
franchise store, else matching the accessing user to a guest home page,

a home page sending system that sends home page data according to a
first type universal resource locator (url) and a plurality of second type urls,
the first type url comprising a url common to the system, each second type url
25 each corresponding to a different franchise store, the home page sending
system also sending a home page for a franchise store based on member entry
data base information,

an order processing system that receives orders from members through
home pages each corresponding to a particular franchise store, said orders
30 including order data identifying a member and goods ordered; and

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a plurality of franchise servers each corresponding to a different franchise store, each franchise server receiving order data from the at least one headquarter server received by way of the home page corresponding to the franchise store.

5 **16. (New)** The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 15, wherein:

 said member data further includes a terminal (ID) value associated with a remote user terminal.

17. (New) The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 16, wherein:

10 the franchise store identification ID system checks for a terminal ID value for an accessing user, and determines that access is not a first access if the terminal ID value matches that of the member data.

18. (New) The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 15, wherein:

15 the second type urls include fields of the first type url and at least one additional url field having a value unique to each franchise store.

19. (New) The electronic franchise shopping system of claim 15, wherein:

20 the home page sending system sends a unique home page for each second type url, each such unique home page including merchandise data for merchandise available at the franchise store, and merchandise not available at the franchise store but available at a headquarters location.

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